

REMARKS

The Office Action of September 15, 2004, has been received and its contents carefully considered. In response, the independent claims are being revised to expressly recite that the graphs are displayed on a monitor (see, for example, the middle paragraph in the "SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION" section of the present application, on page 6). Furthermore, the independent claims are being revised to recite subject matter (in modified form) that was previously present in certain dependent claims, which are being canceled. Independent claim 1, for example, now recites that the display on the monitor is updated to mark a P_node based on a condition determined while executing the computer program. An example of this is shown (for example) in Figure 11 of the present application's drawings.

The Office Action rejects all of the independent claims for anticipation by *Sreedhar et al.* (which will hereafter be called simply "*Sreedhar*"). Moreover, the rejection for anticipation includes various dependent claims, including those whose subject matter has been transferred (in modified form) to the independent claims (although the Office Action did not include dependent claim 26 in the anticipation rejection, this may have been an oversight since claim 26 is similar to several dependent claims that have been rejected for anticipation, such as claim 2). Nevertheless, for the reasons discussed below, it is respectfully submitted that the inventions now defined by the independent claims are neither disclosed nor suggest by *Sreedhar*.

The *Sreedhar* reference is directed to an arrangement for avoiding problems that may occur with so-called "phi instructions" during an intermediate stage while a program is being compiled. The reference explains *Sreedhar's* invention with the aid of control flow graphs in various drawings, but the reference says nothing about displaying such graphs on the monitor. The reference does not even mention the program call graphs. The fact that *Sreedhar* does not display a graph on the monitor is enough to avoid anticipation of all of the independent claims as currently formulated. The further fact that *Sreedhar* has

no teachings at all about program call graphs provides a double reason for withdrawing the rejection of independent claims 1, 14, and 25 for anticipation.

Independent claim 1 now recites “determining a condition for said first procedure while executing the computer program” and “updating the display on the monitor to mark said P_node based on said condition into marked P_node, wherein said marked P_node is visually distinguishable from said P_node.” This language was imported (in modified form) from dependent claim 2, which has been canceled. Independent claims 6, 14, 19, 25, and 30 have been amended to include language similar to that added to claim 1.

At the top of page 3, the Office Action takes the position that the *Sreedhar* reference teaches determining a condition and marking a node. Although the Office Action cites passages at columns 6 and 8 of *Sreedhar* to support these positions, whatever support the cited passages provide for the positions is flimsy at best. It is unnecessary to belabor this point, since claim 1 now recites “updating the display on the monitor to mark said P_node based on said condition ...”, and it is respectfully submitted that in the *Sreedhar* reference would have suggested this to an ordinarily skilled person. Accordingly, claim 1 is patentable over the reference under 35 USC 103.

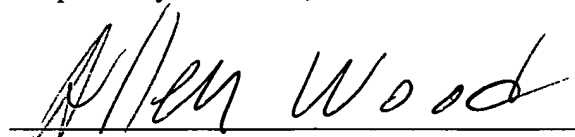
The remaining independent claims now also provide that the display on the monitor is updated to mark a node, so it is respectfully submitted that the remaining independent claims are also patentable under 35 USC 103.

Since the rest of the claims depend from the independent claims discussed above and recite additional limitations to further define the invention, they are patentable along with their independent claims and may not be further discussed. It is nevertheless noted that the *Buzbee et al.* reference, which was included in the rejection for obviousness of some of the dependent claims, is directed to an arrangement for monitoring a program during execution and correlating this with the source code. The *Buzbee et al.* reference would not have provided an incentive for an ordinarily skilled person to modify *Sreedhar* by updating a display on a monitor to mark a node, in accordance with the current formulation of the independent claims.

For the forgoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance. The consideration of this application is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

December 15, 2004
Date

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Allen Wood". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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